



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
January 22, 2023
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Our mission: Love like Jesus...

Welcome all, love all, grow in faith together, and seek justice for all.
“Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.” – John 13:34

We, the members of Peace United Church of Christ, believe that we are called to be a congregation of grace and welcome to all of God’s children:

- to celebrate every person as a child of God, created in God’s image.
- to love all as God has first loved us.
- to acknowledge the presence of, and offer healing to the wounds of oppression, injustice, prejudice, and hate, and to stand with those who are left out.

Following Christ’s example, we welcome and include everyone in all aspects of life, leadership, and ministry of the church. We affirm persons of all races, nationalities, sexual orientations, gender identities, family structures, physical or mental abilities, political stances, faith backgrounds and socio-economic status.

In the way of Jesus, we stand against acts of hate and violence in all their forms.

Therefore, we declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming Congregation, where an extravagant welcome and grace are extended to all, and each person’s gifts are celebrated, welcomed, nurtured, and blessed, that all may be one. Amen.

Approved by Peace Church 10/20/2019

Our vision: “Peace Church exists to feed souls, grow in God's extravagant love and together serve all of God's children and creation.”

Welcome visitors! Please take a moment to complete a Guest Information card in the pew racks in front of you. Please place the completed card in the offering plate.

Prayer Requests - As we gather together as one family in Jesus Christ, we covenant to hold one another’s joys and concerns. Please share your prayers with us by writing them on the “Prayer Request” slip found in the pew in front of you and return them to the usher or place them in the offering plate. Thank you.

Contact Peace Church: Peace UCC - P. O. Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040
Pastor Eric cell: 262-707-0758 - pastor@peace-ucc.org
Church Office: Robin Mock, 262-626-4011 - office@peace-ucc.org
On the web @ www.peace-ucc.org, Peace on [Facebook](#), YouTube at: [Peace UCC Kewaskum](#)

WORSHIP SERVICE

**Stand if you are able.*

PRELUDE *Jesus Is All the World to Me* Line

Greetings – Prayer Requests – Announcement

9:30 a.m. service - Stewardship/Mission Moment

***HYMN 357** [*Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult*](#)

TURNING TO GOD – Psalm 27:1, 4-9

One: May the peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

All: **One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.**

One: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

All: **Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!**

CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

All: **Gracious God, throughout the ages people have turned to you as their rock and salvation. You support us in our times of weakness and seek**

us out when we are lost. We hear your promises and still we doubt that you would help us to heal even those secret places within us, those fears and anxieties that burden us. Help us to stop feeding the beasts of fear, inadequacy, shame, anger... Help us to find your healing light within us, and to uncover it, so that it might shine, and Shine, and SHINE, into every corner of our being and every part of your world.

We know that we are far from perfect, we know that we break our relationships with you and one another by what we think, by what we do, and by what we leave undone. Forgive us, and make your face shine upon us anew. Humbly we pray: "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

One: Our God offers us forgiveness and a love that casts out fear. Claim God's grace and live the life to which God has called you Holy, Beloved and Forgiven. Amen.

*HYMN 338 *King of Kings*

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

9:30 ANTHEM *Stepping on the Clouds* Christopher Chancel

LESSON *Isaiah 9:1-4* (Page 526)

THE CHILDREN'S TIME - As the children come forward, please sing ♪ Hymn # 226 "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" vs.1

HYMN 595 *They'll Know We Are Christians*

GOSPEL [Matthew 4:12-23](#) (Page 739)

EPISTLE [1 Corinthians 1:10-18](#) (Page 869)

SERMON “What are We Following”

SPECIAL MUSIC *This Little Light of Mine* **Line**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Call to us constantly, Beloved Lord. Remind us that you are the one to whom we dedicate our lives. As we raise our hands in offering, help us to see and know how we might further serve you. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER

BENEDICTION

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

***HYMN 393** [Blest Be the Tie that Binds](#)

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Lia Piittmann, Mia Dornacker, Litanist: Jackie McCurdy, Audio: Josh Spaits, Video: David Dorn

Lectionary for January 29: Micah 6:1-8 • Psalm 15 • 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 • Matthew 5:1-12

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday January 22 - 28

Jan 22 John Kletti

Jan 23 David Dorn

Jan 24 Shirley Miller

Jan 25 Andy Charland, Kathy Krieser

Jan 26 Lorna Schwingle-Glass

Jan 27 Kyla Kivell

NEWS & NOTES

Calendar for the Week of January 22, 2023

- 1/22 Sunday School 9:30 am, 9th Grade Confirmation 4-5:30 pm
1/24 Lectionary 10 am
1/25 XYZ Cards
1/26 Grief Group 1 pm

Peace Church Banned Book Group – will meet on Wednesday, February 15th at 1:30 p.m. in the church music room. The group will discuss Toni Morrison's "The Bluest Eye". Books are on reserve at the Kewaskum Library and can be picked up starting February 15th. If you are in need of assistance with obtaining a book, please contact the church office.

Peace Church Community Meal –Our next Community Meal will take place on February 1st, and the first Wednesday of each month. **The next meal will be a Spaghetti Dinner.** Our prayer is that we may gather with one another and with our community to break bread and share fellowship. Come all who are lonely, come all who are hungry, come all who wish to celebrate being together! All are welcome!! Please contact the church office if you have any questions or wish to help.

Art/Craft Sale: Take a look at the tables near both entrances at church to find hand crafted items for sale! Items will change monthly, and proceeds will go towards a designated fund at church. If you are interested in being one of the 'vendors', talk to Karla Spaits, Nancy Stoffel, or Sandi Radeztsky. To date, \$734 have been collected.

Peace Church Food Pantry located in the parking lot of Peace Church, has been very busy lately helping individuals and families in need in our community. Please consider purchasing food or personal hygiene items (toilet

paper, kleenex, bars of soap, liquid hand soap) for the pantry. Frozen food items can be safely kept in the pantry during cold weather, which we monitor. We also will take cash donations and will purchase items for the pantry. Thank you!

2023 Canada Wilderness Canoe Trip - This coming August, Peace Church will be heading north again to the Canadian wilderness for a time of interaction with some of the very best of God's creation - the sparkling clean waters and forestlands of the White Otter Wilderness area in Ontario. Our trip will take place August 12 (leave Kewaskum early that morning), be on the water Aug. 13-17, and drive back to Kewaskum on Friday Aug. 18.

The trip is open to youth who have finished their freshman year in high school and above and to all young adults and adults. Approx. cost for the trip will be between \$450 - \$550 depending on our final trip itinerary, number of participants and any fundraisers we might do between now and the trip. This cost covers all of the trip outfitting including canoes, tents, equipment, food, etc. It also covers the cost of travel to and from Kewaskum. All you need to bring with you are your clothes, personal items, and a willingness to participate in a new adventure!!

There is a Canoe Trip sign-up sheet in the parking lot entry area. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Eric, Karla Spaits or John Kletti.

Peace UCC on Local Cable – In the West Bend service area we are now on cable television. This week's service will be broadcast on Monday afternoons at approximately 1:00 p.m. On Sunday mornings the prior week's service will be broadcast in sequence with other area congregations at approximately 10:15 (it depends on the length of the services before us). This will be on Spectrum channel 987, and AT&T channel 99. Please let us know how this works for you.

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

Current prayers will be listed for one week unless otherwise indicated. Requests may be emailed to office@peace-ucc.org or by calling the office at 262-626-4011. You may also share your prayer requests by writing them on the "Prayer Request" slip found in the pew in front of you and return them to the usher or place them in the offering plate.

Prayers of Healing:

For Kathy Danielson, who is back in the hospital for health issues.

For Dean Roe, who suffered cracked ribs and a cracked spine following a fall. Dean continues to heal at West Bend Froedtert.

For Mary Tessar, who was hospitalized at West Bend Froedtert, broke her elbow that required surgery after she fell last week. Mary is now in rehab at Cedar Community.

Prayers of Comfort:

For Ralph Faisst and his family following the passing of Verna Faisst on January 14, 2022. A funeral service for Verna was held at Peace Church on January 20, 2023.

For Betty Fleury, who has entered home hospice care after a 14-year battle with pancreatic cancer.

Prayers of Celebration:

To Josh and Arielle Guillaume, on the birth of their son, Everett Blythe Guillaume. Everett was born on January 16, 2023, and weighed in at 6 lbs, 6 oz. Congratulations to grandparents, John & Debbie Guillaume, aunt, Sarah Guillaume, great-aunt, Judy Lehmann, and great-grandmother, Della Lehmann. 